

REMARKS

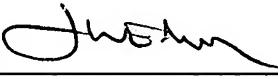
Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7-9 and 11 have been amended in order to correct minor informalities and improve the form thereof.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 23, 2004

By: 
James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com